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ABSTRACT

This report provides tables and charts on the results of Iowa's school bond issues from 1960-1970 inclusive. Although the report does not analyze the results of the school bond issues, it does observe that the time of year, the month, and the week in which school bond elections are held seem to have a substantial effect upon election results. (JF)

ED 058652

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IOWA BOND ISSUE STUDY

preliminary report fall, 1971

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EA 004 019

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GENTLEMEN:

ENCLOSED YOU WILL FIND A PRELIMINARY REPORT ANALYZING IOWA SCHOOL BOND ISSUES OVER THE LAST DOZEN YEARS. COOPERATION FROM PARTICIPATING SCHOOL DISTRICTS HAS BEEN EXCELLENT, ALTHOUGH A FEW FAILED TO SUPPLY DETAILED INFORMATION FOR REASONS RANGING FROM TOTAL LACK OF INTEREST TO SUSPICION OF THE WRITER'S MOTIVES.

THERE HAVE BEEN 814 BOND ISSUES REPORTED TO US FROM THE YEARS 1960-1970, INCLUSIVE, ON WHICH RESULTS WERE AVAILABLE. AS MANY AS 50 OTHERS MAY HAVE BEEN HELD, BUT WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO OBTAIN ONLY INCOMPLETE INFORMATION ON THEM. THEREFORE, OUR SAMPLE FOR STATISTICAL PURPOSES IS WELL OVER 90%.

WE ARE INTENTIONALLY NOT ANALYZING THESE RESULTS FOR YOU IN THIS REPORT, BUT ARE QUITE CONFIDENT THAT YOU CAN DETERMINE FOR YOURSELVES SUCH THINGS AS WHEN TO HOLD AN ELECTION. IT IS RATHER OBVIOUS THAT TIME OF YEAR, MONTH, AND WEEK DO MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE CONCERNING ELECTION TACTICS--PARTICULARLY CONCENTRATING ON THOSE TACTICS WHICH INFLUENCE ELECTION RESULTS ONE WAY OR THE OTHER SUCH AS BROCHURE CONTENT, TELEPHONE CAMPAIGNS, PUBLIC MEETINGS, ETC. THIS INFORMATION WILL ALSO BE MADE AVAILABLE TO YOU IF YOU WISH, BUT A GENERAL PRINTING AND MAILING IS QUITE COSTLY. PLEASE WRITE OR CALL AS FOLLOWS FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.

WILLIAM HUKILL
610 TENTH STREET SOUTHEAST
CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA 52402
TELEPHONE AREA 319 - 363-2649

IF YOU ARE PLANNING A REFERENDUM IN THE REASONABLY NEAR FUTURE WE WOULD BE HAPPY TO STOP IN AND VISIT WITH YOU ON OUR NEXT TRIP TO YOUR AREA. THANKS AGAIN FOR YOUR COOPERATION.

VERY TRULY YOURS,

WILLIAM V. HUKILL

WVH:JS

P. S. IT IS INTERESTING TO NOTE THAT ELECTION RESULTS HAVE TURNED AROUND COMPLETELY IN 1971. AS PLATE A INDICATES, ONLY 28% OF BOND ISSUES WERE SUCCESSFUL IN 1970. IN 1971, (THROUGH AUGUST 31) HOWEVER, 13 OF 25 ISSUES HAVE SUCCEEDED. OF THE REMAINING 12, ALL BUT 5 OBTAINED A SIMPLE MAJORITY, FOR 80% COMPARED TO 55% LAST YEAR.

IOWA BOND ISSUE HISTORY

JANUARY 1, 1960 - DECEMBER 31, 1970

YEAR	TOTAL ISSUES	ISSUES OVER 60%	ISSUES OVER 50%	% OVER 60	% OVER 50
1960	66	45	59	68	89
1961	83	50	66	60	80
1962	73	39	60	53	82
1963	64	27	45	42	70
1964	74	44	67	60	91
1965	67	46	61	69	91
1966	75	54	65	72	87
1967	80	57	66	71	82
1968	88	60	71	68	81
1969	90	55	74	61	82
1970	54	15	30	28	55
11-YEAR AVERAGE 1960 THRU 1970	74	45	60	61%	81%

EXPLANATION OF EXHIBITS

PLATE A - INDICATES SUCCESS RATIO OF BOND ISSUES 1960-1970. DOTTED LINE SHOWS THAT OVER THAT TIME SPAN MORE THAN 80% OF ISSUES OBTAINED AT LEAST A SIMPLE MAJORITY IN EACH YEAR EXCEPT 1963 AND 1970. SOLID LINE INDICATES THAT OVER 50% OF ALL ISSUES PASSED IN EACH YEAR EXCEPT 1963 AND 1970. FOR 1971, 80% OF ISSUES SO FAR HAVE RECEIVED A SIMPLE MAJORITY, AND 52% HAVE PASSED (THROUGH SEPTEMBER 1). IF YOU PLOT 1971 TO DATE ON THIS PLATE YOU WILL SEE THAT THE TREND TOWARD DEFEAT EXPERIENCED IN 1970 HAS REVERSED ITSELF.

PLATE B - INDICATES NUMBER OF ISSUES VOTED EACH YEAR 1960-1970, TOGETHER WITH NUMBER OF ISSUES GAINING APPROVAL AND NUMBER GAINING A SIMPLE MAJORITY. PROJECTING 1971 (BASED ON FIRST EIGHT MONTHS) INDICATES ABOUT 40 ELECTIONS WILL BE HELD (COMPARED TO THE 11-YEAR AVERAGE OF 74), WITH ABOUT 21 SUCCESSFUL, AND ELEVEN MORE OVER 50% BUT BELOW 60%. THE PROBLEM IS THAT SCHOOL DISTRICTS ARE RUNNING SCARED AND NOT VOTING AT ALL, RATHER THAN THAT PEOPLE ARE NOT SUPPORTING ELECTIONS.

PLATE C - INDICATES PROPORTION OF BOND ISSUES WHICH HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL EACH MONTH OF THE YEAR.

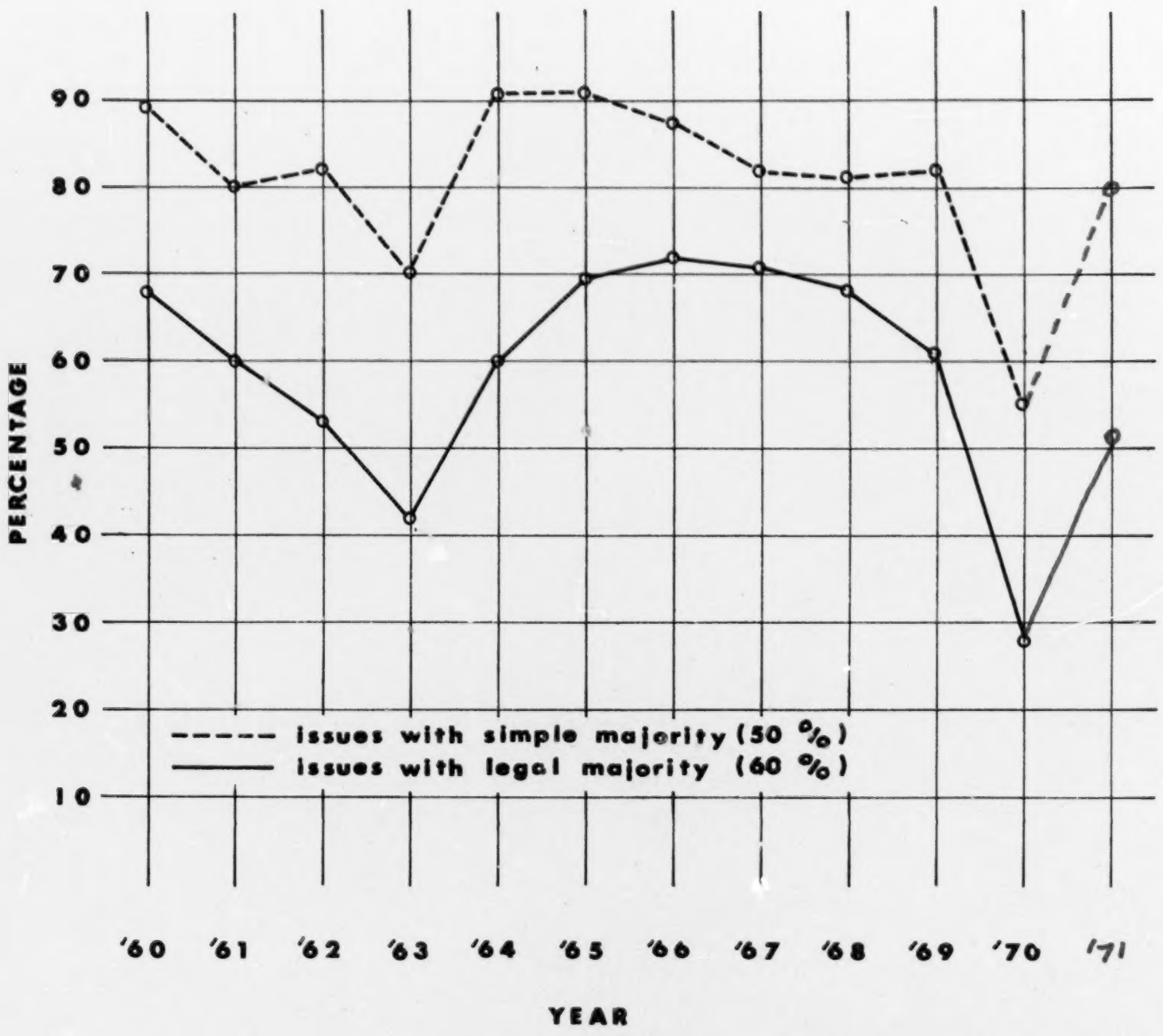
PLATE D - INDICATES PROPORTION OF BOND ISSUES WHICH HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL BROKEN DOWN BY TIME OF MONTH.

PLATE E - INDICATES PROPORTION OF BOND ISSUES WHICH HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL BROKEN DOWN BY DAY OF THE WEEK.

PLATE F - INDICATES NUMBER OF ISSUES WHICH HAVE BEEN HELD ON EACH DAY OF THE WEEK.

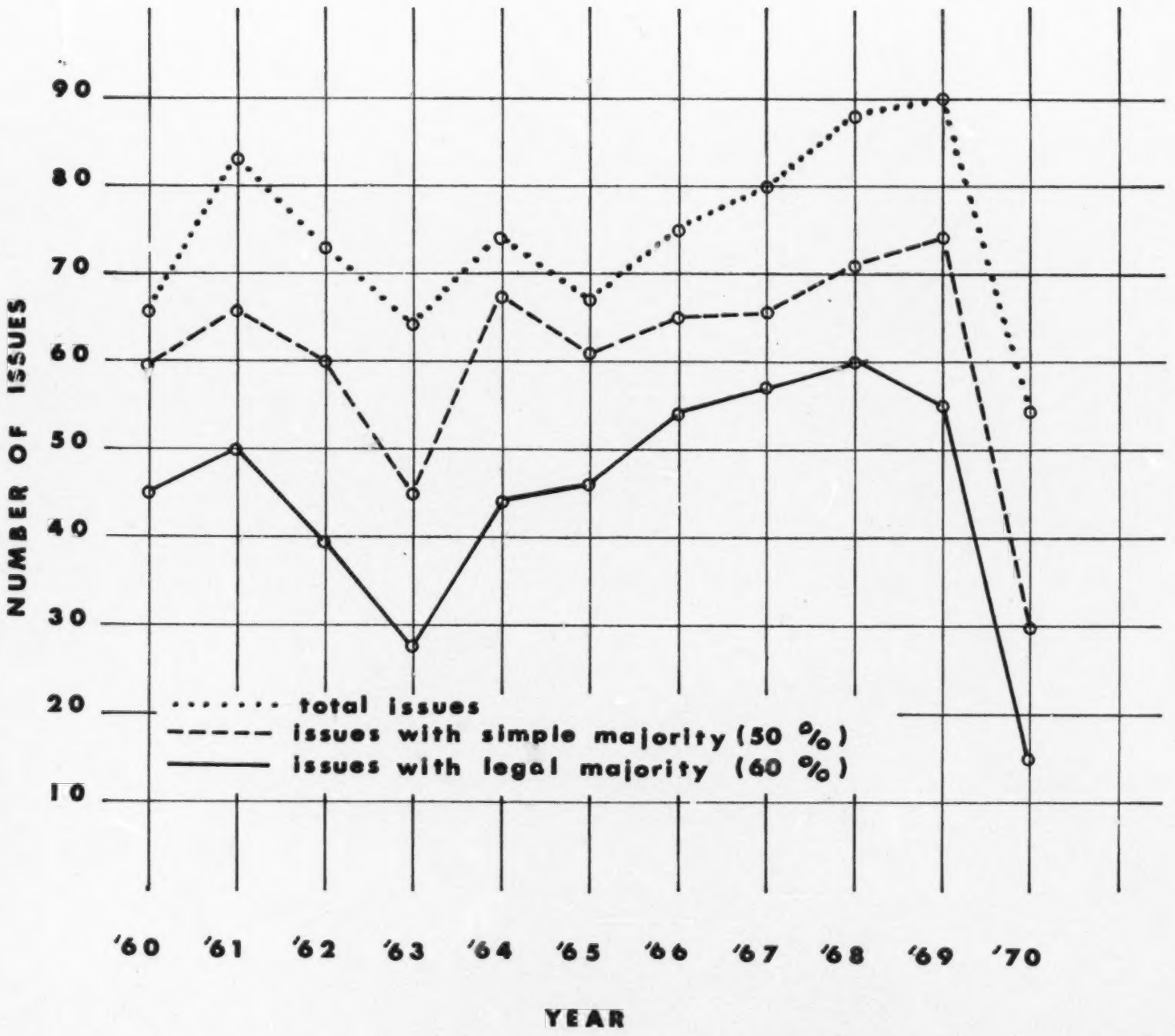
PLATE G - INDICATES THE EFFECT OF SIZE OF ISSUE AS IT RELATES TO SUCCESS. ISSUES FALLING IN SHADED AREA ARE THOSE WHICH OBTAINED A MAJORITY, BUT FAILED TO PASS BECAUSE THEY DID NOT OBTAIN 60%.

5



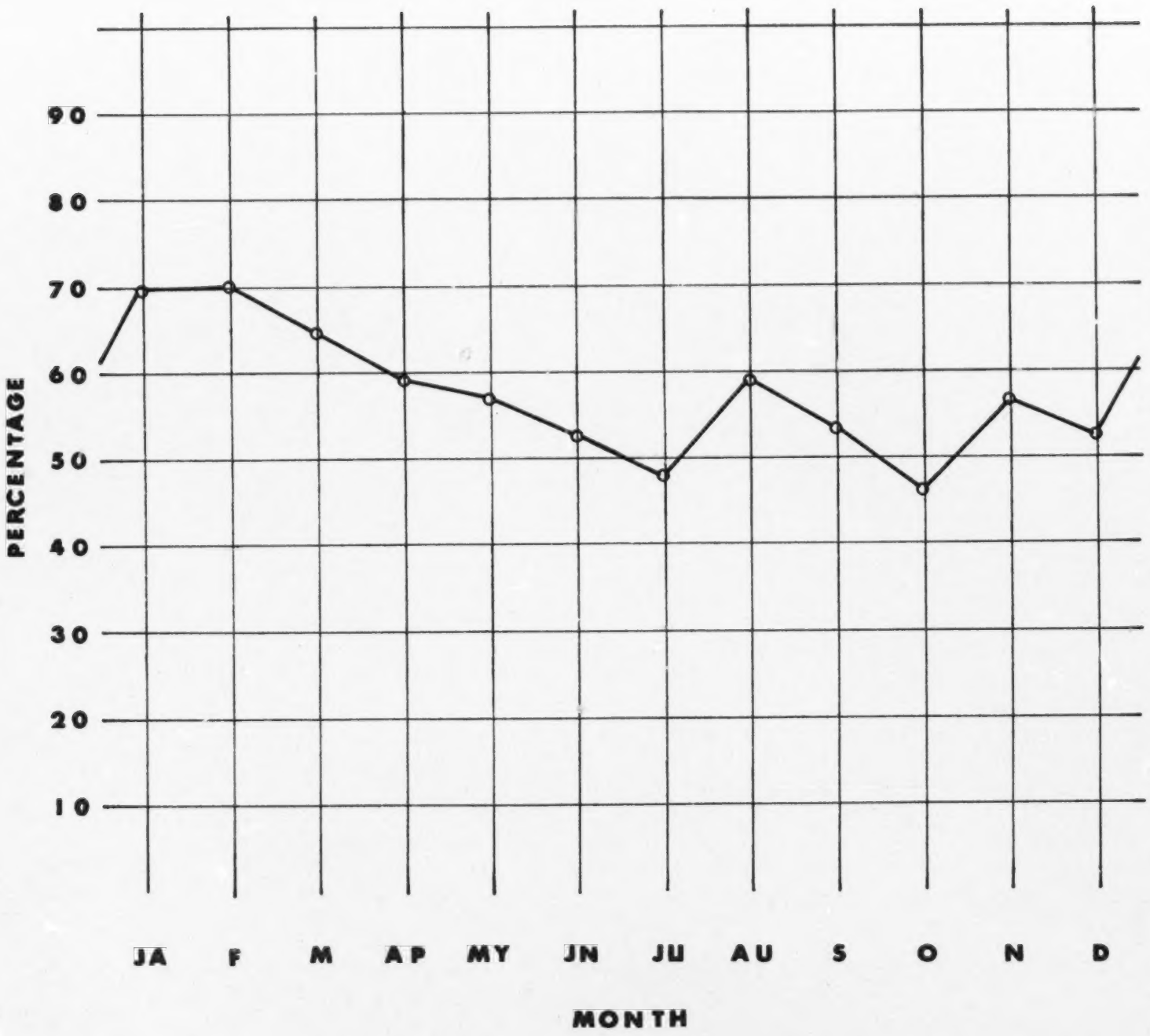
hukill bond study plate **A**

6



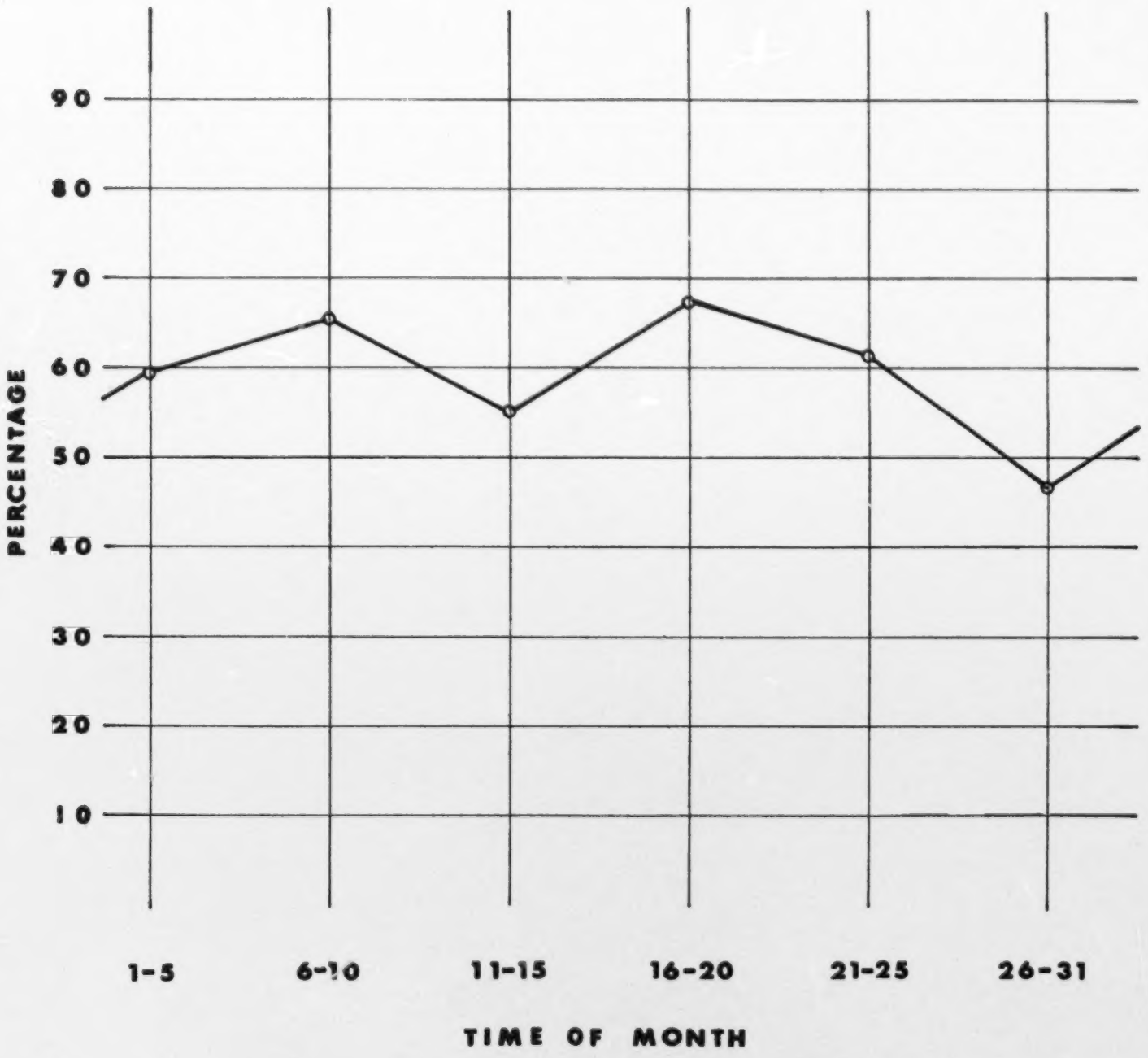
hukill bond study plate B

7

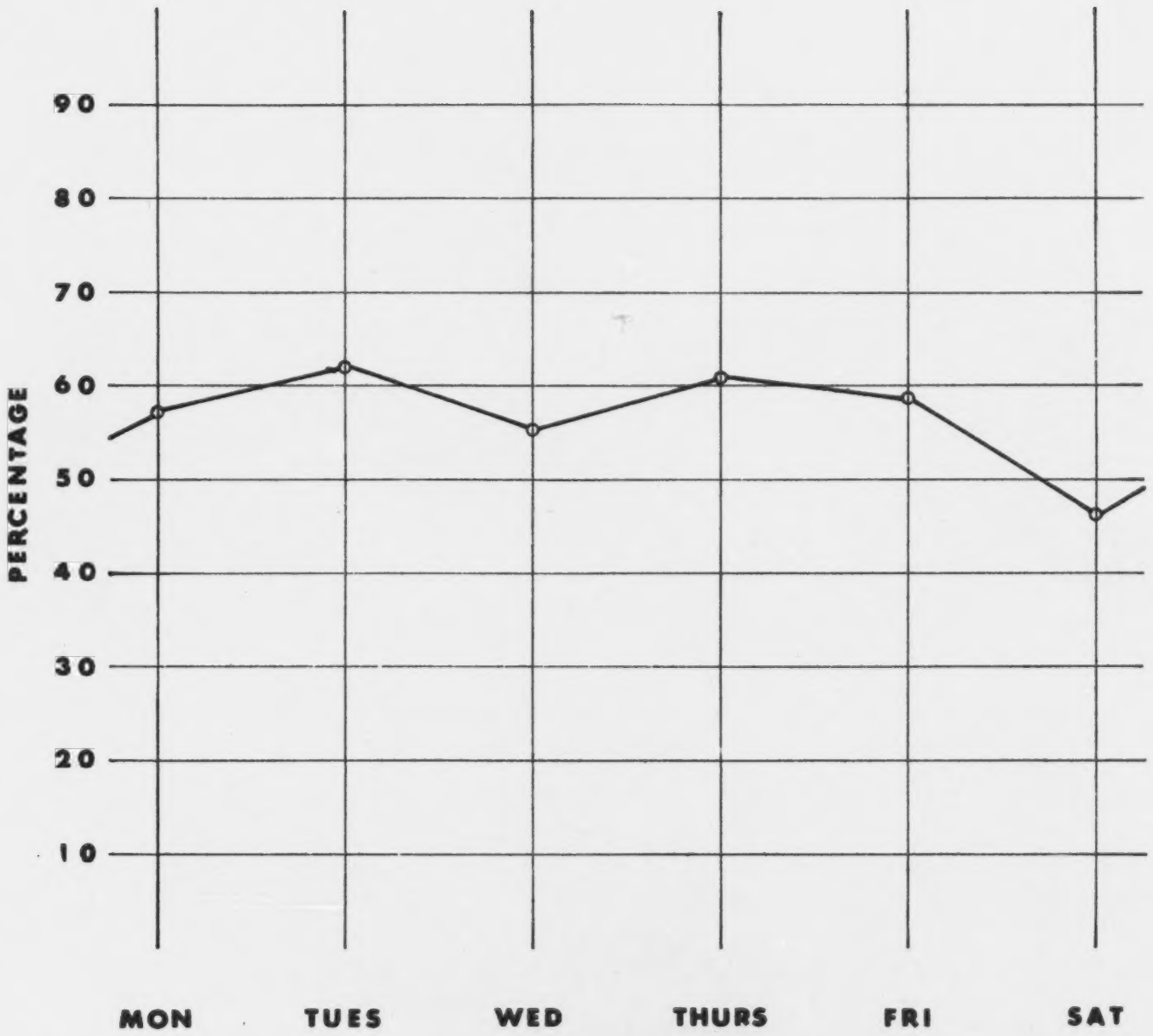


hukill bond study plate C

8



hukill bond study plate D



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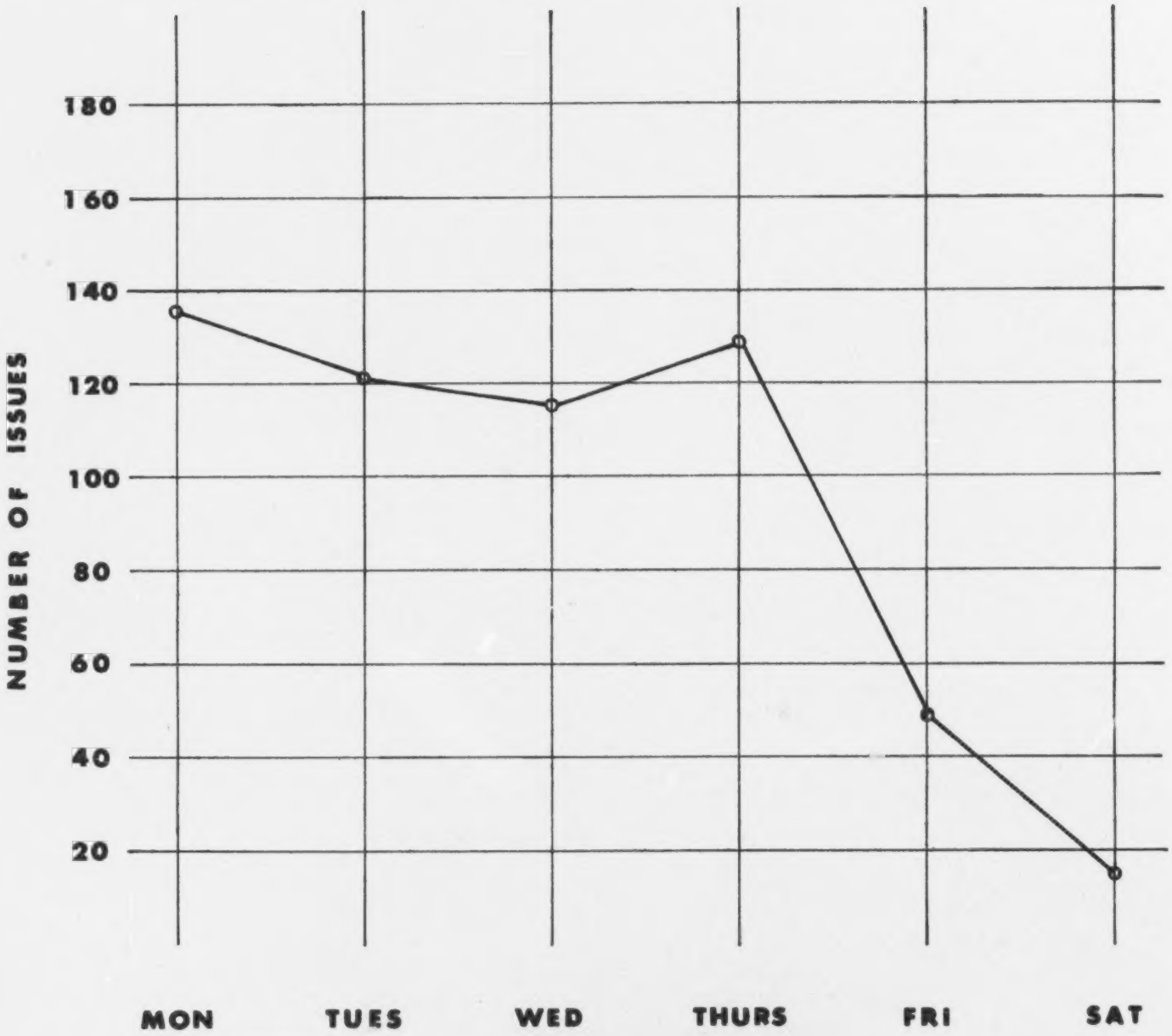
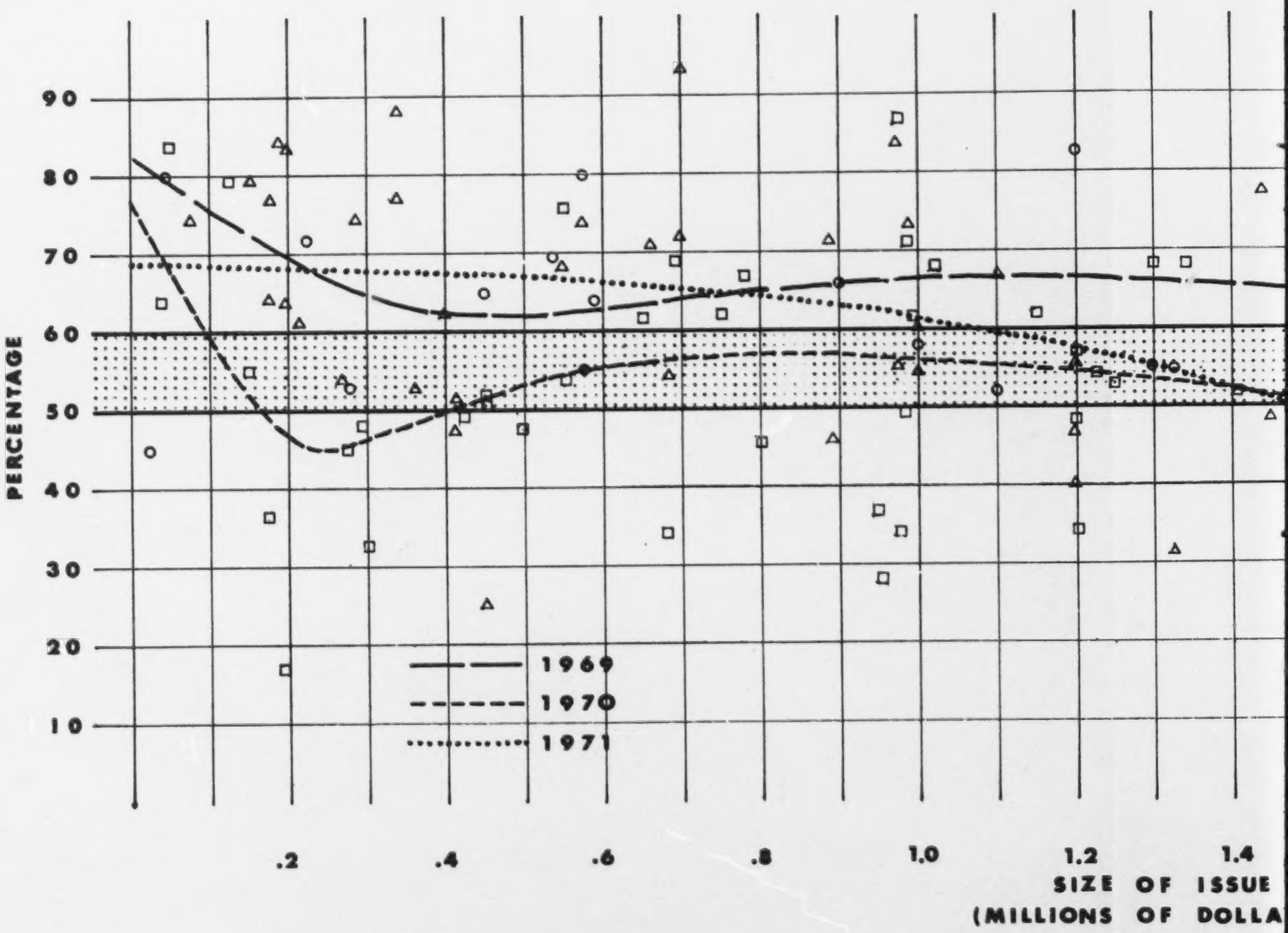
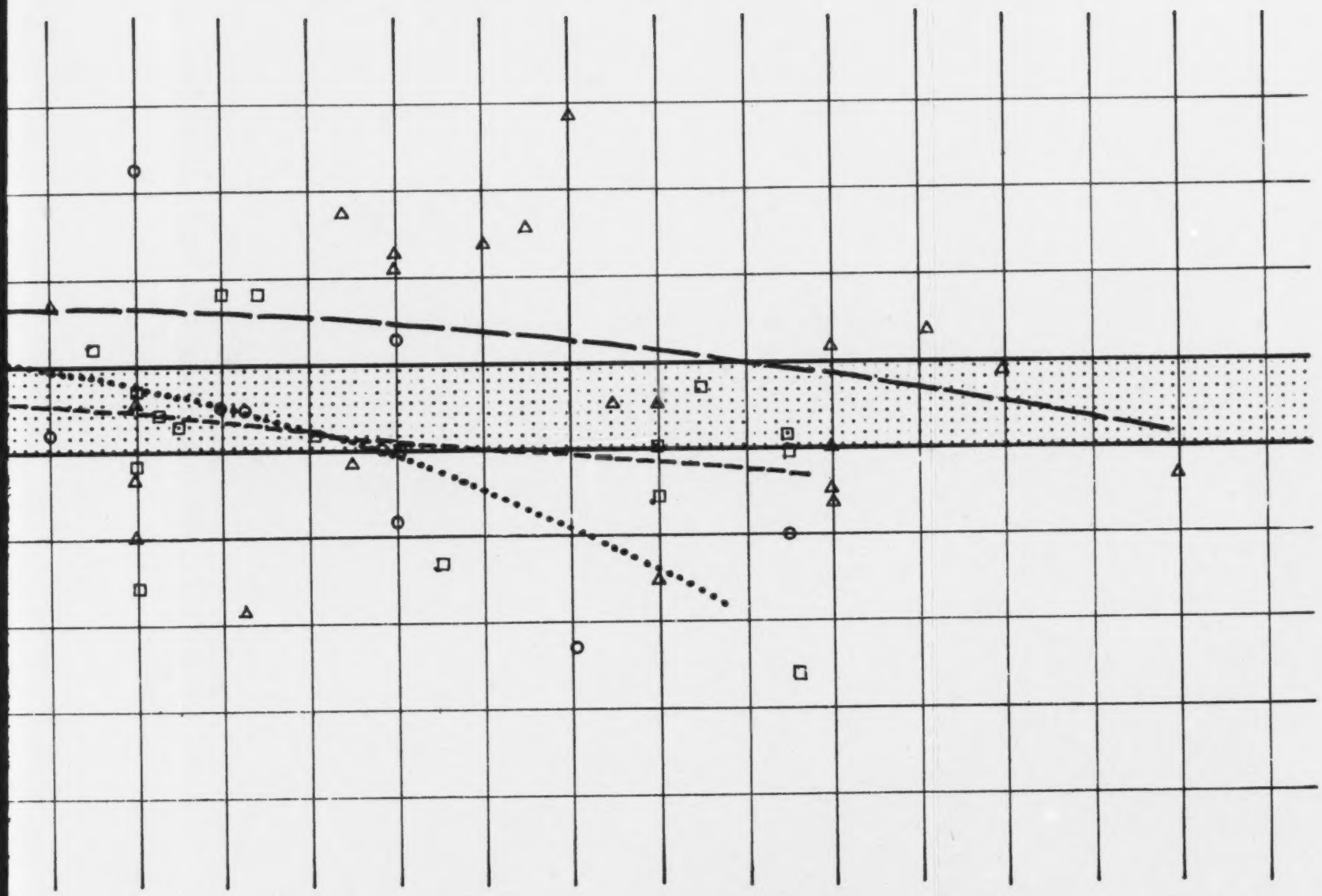


hukill bond study plate F


90
80
70
60
50
40
30
20
10
PERCENTAGE
1969
1970
1971
.2
.4
.6
.8
1.0
1.2
1.4
SIZE OF ISSUE
(MILLIONS OF DOLLA

12



1.2 1.4 1.6 1.8 2.0 2.2 2.4

SIZE OF ISSUE
(MILLIONS OF DOLLARS)

hukill bond study plate G

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